

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 3488

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PROG, UNSC, CY
SUBJ: GOT LETTER TO WALDHEIM

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF TURK REPLY DATED MAY 4, TO WALDHEIM LETTER
OF MAY 2 INFORMING GOT HE DID NOT FEEL THERE WAS BASIS TO CALL
FOR RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS, AND THAT HE WAS
SENDING GALINDO-PAHL TO SEE IF GAP BETWEEN TWO SIDES COULD
BE NARROWER.

BEGIN LETTER

BEGIN PARAGRAPH IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT DURING OUR TALKS IN
ANKARA LAST JANUARY, I HAVE INFORMED YOU OF THE DECISION OF MY
GOVERNMENT TO FIND A JUST AND LASTING SOLUTION TO THE
CYPRUS PROBLEM, WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY, AND TO THIS END
PROMISED OUR WHOLE HEARTED SUPPORT IN YOUR MISSION OF
GOOD-OFFICES FOR THE RESUMPTION OF CONSTRUCTIVE AND
MEANINGFUL INTER-COMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS.

BEGIN PARAGRAPH IN FULFILLING THIS UNDERTAKING MY GOVERNMENT TOOK
A PUBLIC STAND AND ANNOUNCED THAT IT FULLY SHARES
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POLITICAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PROPOSALS OF THE TURKISH
CYPRIOT ADMINISTRATION, ABOUT BOTH TERRITORIAL AND CONSTI-
TUTIONAL ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM. AS A STATESMAN AND DIPLO-
MAT OF THE HIGHEST ORDER, WITH VAST EXPERIENCE IN PRACTI-
CAL POLITICS, YOU WOULD NO DOUBT APPRECIATE THE RISK
SUCH A DECISION ENTAILED IN A MOST SENSITIVE NATIONAL
ISSUE. NEVERTHELESS I DEEMED IT MY DUTY TO TAKE THIS RE-

SPONSIBILITY, AS THE PRIME MINISTER OF A FOUNDING MEMBER OF YOUR ORGANIZATION, IN ORDER TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE PEACE AND STABILITY OF THIS CRITICAL REGION OF THE WORLD.

BEGIN PARAGRAPH IN THE SAME SPIRIT OF SUPPORT AND CO-OPERATION, MR SECRETARY GENERAL, MY GOVERNMENT ALSO ENCOURAGED THE TURKISH CYPRIOT ADMINISTRATION, TO GIVE YOU FULLEST INFORMATION ABOUT THE MAIN ASPECTS OF THEIR PROPOSALS AND NEGOTIATING POSITION, IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT THIS WAS AGAINST PAST PRACTICES IN INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS; PARTICULARLY IF ONE RECALLS THE PROCEDURE EMPLOYED BY THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WHEN INTRODUCING THEIR PROPOSALS AT THE 6TH ROUND IN VIENNA ON 31ST MARCH - 7 APRIL, 1977.

BEGIN PARAGRAPH DURING THE TELEPHONE CONVERSATION I HAD THE PLEASURE OF HAVING WITH YOU SOME WEEKS EARLIER, I HAVE INFORMED YOU OF THE GOOD FAITH, SERIOUS AND FLEXIBLE ATTITUDE OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE AND THEIR READINESS TO DEMONSTRATE THIS FLEXIBILITY IN THE COURSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. IN FACT MR SECRETARY-GENERAL IN KEEPING WITH THE SERIOUS NATURE OF THE PROBLEM, WE HAVE REFRAINED FROM GIVING DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT THE SUBJECT, EVEN TO OUR CLOSEST FRIENDS AND ALLIES, BECAUSE AS YOU WOULD, I AM SURE, APPRECIATE A DISCLOSURE ABOUT THE DETAILS OF THE PROPOSALS OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT ADMINISTRATION BEYOND WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE CONFIDENTIAL

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PUBLIC, WOULD POLITICALLY RENDER THE TURKISH POSITION RATHER INFLEXIBLE, THROUGH BEING PUBLICLY COMMITTED TO MUCH DETAILS. BUT UNFORTUNATELY THE OTHER SIDE COULD NOT SHOW THE SAME RESPONSIBLE RESTRAINT. IN FACT I HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT THEY HAVE DISTRIBUTED COPIES OF ALL THE DOCUMENTS GIVEN TO YOU, MR SECRETARY-GENERAL, BY THE TURKISH CYPRIOT REPRESENTATIVES WITH FALSE COMMENTS PRESENTING THE PROPOSALS AS A MERE TERRITORIAL CONCESSION OF ONE PERCENT. WHEREAS THE TURKISH CYPRIOT ADMINISTRATION HAD REFRAINED FROM INDICATING PERCENTAGES IN ORDER TO RETAIN A FLEXIBLE POSITION. NOBODY KNOWS BETTER THAN YOU HOW UNFAIR THE GREEK ALLEGATIONS ARE ON THIS POINT.

BEGIN PARAGRAPH UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES MY GOVERNMENT NATURALLY EXPECTED THAT YOU WOULD ANNOUNCE MR SECRETARY-GENERAL, THE DATE AND THE VENUE OF THE NEXT ROUND OF THE TALKS AS PART OF YOUR MISSION OF GOOD OFFICES IN ORDER TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN THE TWO CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES THROUGH CONSTRUCTIVE AND MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATIONS.

BEGIN PARAGRAPH IT WAS THEREFORE WITH REGRET AND DISAPPOINTMENT

THAT I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR MESSAGE OF 5TH MAY AND LEARNED
OF THE STATEMENT OF YOUR SPOKESMAN ON 2ND MAY, 1978.
QUOTE CONSULTATIONS AIMED AT BRINGING THE POSITIONS OF THE
PARTIES CLOSER TOGETHER AND EVOLVING A BASIS FOR A MEAN-
INGFUL RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS END QUOTE AS PROPOSED IN YOUR
MESSAGE OF 5TH MAY DO REQUIRE FURTHER CONCESSIONS FROM
THE TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE BEFORE THE RESUMPTION OF ACTUAL
NEGOTIATIONS. WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH A PROCEDURE SHALL
UNAVOIDABLY ELIMINATE FLEXIBILITY AND FORCE THE PARTIES
TO TAKE RIGID POSITIONS. I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE
GREEK INTRANSIGENCE RESULTING FROM THE PRIORITY THEY
ATTACH TO MATTERS UNRELATED TO THE CYPRUS QUESTION HAS
NOT ESCAPED YOUR ATTENTION.

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BEGIN PARAGRAPH BECAUSE OF THE ABOVE CONSIDERATIONS I REGRET TO
INFORM YOU MR SECRETARY-GENERAL THAT MY GOVERNMENT CON-
NOT ENDORSE SUCH A NEW PROCEDURE, WHICH WOULD UNFAIRLY
PUT THE TURKISH CYPRIOT ADMINISTRATION IN A VERY DIFFI-
CULT POSITION AND WHICH WOULD, IN ANY CASE, BE
FUTILE, AS THE GREEK CYPRIOT ADMINISTRATION OBVIOUSLY IS
NOT INTERESTED, AT THIS STAGE, IN A NEGOTIATED SETTLE-
MENT BUT IS MAINLY ANXIOUS TO MOBILIZE PRESSURES AGAINST
TURKEY AND THE TURKISH CYPRIOT ADMINISTRATION.

BEGIN PARAGRAPH UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES I HOPE, MR SECRETARY-
GENERAL, THAT YOU WILL RECONSIDER YOUR INTENTION TO
REFRAIN FROM CALLING FOR THE RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL
TALKS, AS THAT MIGHT BE A FATAL BLOW TO AN HISTORIC
OPPORTUNITY TO RESOLVE THE CYPRUS PROBLEM IN THE BEST
LONG TERM INTERESTS OF ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED AND IN
THE INTEREST OF THE REGION AS A WHOLE.

BEGIN PARAGRAPH BEST REGARDS, BULENT ECEVIT END LETTER. SPIERS

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